

**FALCONRY RULES**  
**FAIR HILL NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AREA**  
**2023-2024 Season**

**FAIR HILL NRMA FALCONRY SEASON:**

Squirrels (red, gray and Eastern fox):

September 5, 2023 to March 28, 2024

Cottontail Rabbit:

November 2, 2023 to March 28, 2024

**RESERVATIONS:**

1. You must have a reservation to participate in falconry at Fair Hill NRMA. Reservations can be made by contacting the Fair Hill NRMA park office at: 410.398.1246 or [fairhill.dnr@maryland.gov](mailto:fairhill.dnr@maryland.gov).
2. Reservations can be made for Tuesdays and Thursdays during the falconry season.
3. Reservations must be made no more than eight days in advance and not less than one day.

**PARKING:**

1. See attached maps for designated parking areas. Hunting parking areas are indicated with a red letter "P".
2. All hunters must display a Fair Hill NRMA Falconer Parking permit on the dash of his/her vehicle. Parking permits are available at the Fair Hill NRMA office located at 300 Tawes Drive, Elkton, Maryland 21921, **and must be obtained prior to hunting.**

**HUNTING:**

1. Hunters are required to obtain and possess a valid Maryland Hunting License and a Falconry Permit to hunt select game species (squirrels and cottontail rabbits) with a bird of prey at Fair Hill NRMA.
2. Hunters using birds of prey are required to follow the daily bag limits and possession limits set for those species being taken.
3. Well-trained hunting dogs may be used off-leash while participating in falconry activities at Fair Hill NRMA.
4. You may enter the area during legal hunting times. Hunting with birds of prey at Fair Hill NRMA is permitted one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
5. You are responsible for familiarizing yourself with the hunting area boundary lines, safety zones, and established trails.
6. While hunting mammals during the open season using birds of prey, a hunter is not required to wear fluorescent orange. However, hunters are encouraged to wear fluorescent orange whenever they are afield.

**GENERAL:**

1. All State and Federal hunting laws, as well as park regulations, will be strictly enforced.
2. The trapping of raptors is NOT PERMITTED at Fair Hill NRMA or at any Maryland Park Service managed property.
3. Maryland State Parks are "TRASH FREE". All trash must be packed out.
4. Violating the rules of this program will result in the loss of your hunting permit.
5. Falconry Parking Permits are not valid for general day-use.
6. Fair Hill Training Center is off-limits, please see the attached map for authorized falconry areas.
7. All harvested game must be reported to Fair Hill NRMA headquarters as soon as possible at: 410-398-1246
8. Falconry areas may be altered or closed without prior notice if deemed necessary by DNR personnel.
9. The future of this hunting program depends on YOU. Please exercise caution and conduct yourself in an ethical, sportsmanlike manner when in the field.